

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 NEA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /131 W

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R 071558Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4501

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 4323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VS VN XA GH

SUBJ: ASSESSMENT OF DRV DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 171607

1. SIMPLY STATED, SITUATION IN GHANA ON RECOGNITION PRG IS: (A) PERMANENT OFFICIALS DEALING WITH QUESTION IN FONMINISTRY DO NOT BELIEVE GHANA SHOULD BE INVOLVE SELF IN PRG/GVN ISSUE. THEY WOULD JUST AS SOON NOT EVEN RECEIVE VISITS FROM SALESMEN EITHER SIDE. WHEN VOTES ARISE AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY GHANA, THEY BELIEVE GHANA SHOULD ABSTAIN. AS FAR AS THESE OFFICIALS KNOW, THIS IS GHANA'S OFFICIAL POLICY. THEY WILL CONTINUE ADVISE ACCORDINGLY COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNTIL THEY RECEIVE EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS THAT GHANA'S POLICY HAS CHANGED. (B) HOWEVER, AS WAS NOTED WHEN GHANA RECOGNIZED SIHANOUK'S GRUNK, FONAFFAIRS COMMISSIONER BAAH DOES NOT LIKE TO BE REPROACHED BY OTHER AFRICAN DELEGATES TO THIRD WORLD MEETINGS HE ATTENDS FOR GHANA'S "UNPROGRESSIVE" ATTITUDE ON SUCH QUESTIONS. IF HE FEELS THE HEAT FROM FELLOW OAU MEMBERS AT NEXT MEETING HE ATTENDS, HE IS QUITE CAPABLE OF RETURNING TO ACCRA AND
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UNILATERALLY RECOGNIZING PRG WITHOUT REFERENCE HIS OWN

MINISTRY STAFF AND EVEN LITTLE IF ANY CONSULTATION OTHER MEMBERS RULING NATIONAL REDEMPTION COUNCIL (NRC).

2. LOOKING AT LIST AFRICAN STATES RECOGNIZING PRG (PARA 6 REFTEL), OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT LIKELIHOOD BAAH TAKING SUCH STEP SOMEWHAT DIMINISHED BY ABSENCE THIS LIST MORE "RESPECTABLE" AFRICAN STATES. SHOULD NIGERIA, KENYA OR ZAIRE JOIN LIST, POSSIBILITY GHANA FOLLOWING CROWD ACCORDINGLY ENHANCED.

3. THERE ARE INFLUENTIAL CIVIL SERVANTS IN FONMINISTRY AND NRC SECRETARIAT WHO ARE AWARE GHANA'S RELATIONS WITH U.S. NOT ALL THEY MIGHT BE. THEY ALSO KNOW U.S. UNLIKELY DO MUCH TO IMPROVE THESE RELATIONS IN RETURN FOR SUPPORT ON PRG ISSUE, BUT THAT THERE IS AT LEAST NEGATIVE VALUE TO GHANA IN NOT WORSENING ODDS WITH US OVER ISSUE OF LITTLE REAL IMPORT TO GHANA. THERE WOULD BE LITTLE VALUE EMBASSY MAKING THIS POINT EXPLICITLY AT POLITICAL LEVEL HERE. IN FACT, DOING SO COULD RUN RISK PROVOKING VERY REACTION WE DO NOT WANT FROM INTENSELY NATIONALISTIC NRC. MOST USEFUL WAY GET POINT ACROSS, EMBASSY BELIVEES, WOULD BE TO MAKE OUR VIEW CLEAR TO GHANA MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS WITH EXPECTATION THAT MISSION'S REPORTING TO ACCRA WOULD STRENGTHEN HAND OF POLICY ADVISERS HERE SHOULD BAAH PROPOSE CHANGE OF POLICY TO NRC.
HANSON

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